



LEROY D. BACA, SHERIFF

County of Los Angeles
Sheriff's Department Headquarters
4700 Ramona Boulevard
Monterey Park, California 91754-2169



December 17, 2010

The Honorable Board of Supervisors
County of Los Angeles
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

ADVANCE NOTIFICATION
INTENT TO ENTER INTO SOLE SOURCE NEGOTIATIONS
WITH L. A. WORKS WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
FOR EDUCATIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT
TO PROVIDE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES TO THE INMATE POPULATION WITHIN
THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY JAIL FACILITIES

SUBJECT

This letter provides advance notification to your Board that the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department (Department) intends to enter into negotiations for a sole source agreement with L. A. Works Workforce Development Agency (L. A. Works), a non-profit organization, for an Educational Services Agreement to provide educational services to the inmate population within the Department's jail facilities. This proposed sole source agreement with L. A. Works includes, but is not limited to, providing vocational programs, life skills, and GED preparation classes. The intended term of the agreement will be for one year and six months with the option to extend for another six months in any increment.

PURPOSE

The purpose of the recommended action is to allow the Department to maintain compliance with the Title 15 mandate that the Department must provide inmates access to educational services while incarcerated. This is intended to be accomplished through a sole source agreement with L. A. Works, a qualified contractor with an excellent reputation in working collaboratively with the Department.

A Tradition of Service

In addition, an exigency has arisen due to the inability of the current educational provider, Hacienda La Puente Unified School District (Hacienda La Puente), to agree upon an Operational Plan as required in the current Agreement.

BACKGROUND

The Department's Offender Services Bureau (OSB) is tasked with providing educational programs to the Department's inmate population. Currently, there are programs in place at each of the Department's seven custody facilities, which service an inmate population of approximately 17,000 inmates. For more than 30 years, Hacienda La Puente has provided the educational programs pursuant to an agreement between them and Los Angeles County (County).

OSB has worked feverishly over the past year to resolve the many issues brought forth by Hacienda La Puente relating to their Agreement. To date, in spite of those efforts and many concessions on both the part of the County and the Department, Hacienda La Puente has been unable to move forward with an Operational Plan for the Fiscal Year 2010-11 or beyond. On June 30, 2010, Hacienda La Puente laid off all instructors and administrative staff associated with correctional education. As an emergency effort, the Department obtained vocational instructor services under the Temporary Personnel Master Agreement in an effort to keep minimal programming in place. The temporary vocational instructor services will end in December 2010 and January 2011, based on the 720 hours temporary personnel limitation. The Department is mandated through Title 15 to make certain educational programs available to the inmate population. A sole source agreement with L. A. Works will allow the Department to continue to satisfy that mandate.

SOLE SOURCE JUSTIFICATION

L. A. Works was positioned to act in a subcontractor capacity with Hacienda La Puente before an impasse in the Operations Plan was reached, and the Agreement termination loomed. During this time, L. A. Works conducted scores of interviews with prospective instructors and identified viable candidates for the positions required. No other provider is in this position to immediately start-up the program like L. A. Works. In addition, L. A. Works provides other services desirable to the Department, such as workforce development, housing rehabilitation, intervention, transportation, and basic skills remediation. Collectively, no other single agency can provide to the Department what L. A. Works will provide.

L. A. Works is intimately familiar with the Department's educational program for the inmate population as mandated by Title 15. This places L. A. Works in a position not held by any other single agency. They have a solid reputation in the educational arena, and a history of administration and oversight of public and private institutions

contracting for vocational training in the workforce development field. L. A. Works additionally provides services within the community to the economically disadvantaged, seniors, veterans, disabled, at-risk youth, long-term unemployed, and ex-offenders through workforce development, housing rehabilitation, energy conservation, intervention, transportation, and basic skills remediation.

The impasse in the current Hacienda La Puente contract negotiations and likelihood of termination of the current Agreement has created an emergency situation by placing the Department in a potential position of non-compliance with Title 15.

The Department has allocated Inmate Welfare funds to finance the educational services to the inmate population. Estimated cost for completion of this project is \$6 million.

Pursuant to Board policy, the Department will proceed with the sole source agreement negotiations in two weeks, unless otherwise instructed by your Board.

Should additional information be required, your staff may contact Mona Whittouck, Contracts Manager, at (323) 526-5542.

Sincerely,



LEROY D. BACA
SHERIFF